



The Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life has released the Holy Father's Message for the **33rd World Youth Day**

(WYD), which will be celebrated in the Dioceses on 25 March 2018, on the theme "

Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God

" (Luke 1:30). In the introduction of his message, Pope Francis writes that the 2018 WYD

"represents another step in preparation for the international WYD due to take place in Panama in January 2019... and falls in the same year that the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will meet on the theme:

Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment

." He continues stressing that "the focus, prayer and reflection of the Church will turn to you young people, with the desire to receive and, above all, to embrace the precious gift that you are to God, to the Church and to the world."

[Link to Pope Francis' 2018 WYD message](#)